Equal Rights

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SATURDAY
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Gail Laughlin

National Vice-Chairman of the National Woman's Party, Gail Laughlin brilliantly directed the Conference on the Regulation of Women's Work by Law recently held at the University of Virginia. She is a member of the Maine, Colorado, New York and California State bars, and has been admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States. A Feminist for thirty years, Miss Laughlin has served two terms in the Maine Legislature and is again the Republican nominee for her district.

Equal Rights

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 52]
[House Joint Resolution Number 55]
Introduced in the Senate June 4, 1929, by SENATOR GERALD P. NYE, North Dakota.

Introduced in the House January 11, 1932, by REPRESENTATIVE LOUIS LUDLOW, Indiana.

Discriminations in California

WHY girls leave home to go to California is matter for wonderment after one reads the abstract, prepared by Robbie Anderson, attorney, of the California property and labor laws affecting women.

The legal systems of most States are based on the English common law so that, originally, wives in probably all of them had no property rights of their own, their possessions being merged as soon as the marriage was consummated with those of their husbands. Probably in all of them also, when women began to acquire property as earnings, the husbands controlled this too.

But today, in most jurisdictions, any reference to the time when the wife's earnings were the husband's property, is accompanied usually by a smile of incredulity that such things could ever have been. It savors so much of the Dark Ages that the men are themselves inclined to be deprecatory; it isn't pleasant to think that their sex was once so domineering, not to say rapacious and avaricious. They smile indulgently at the little weaknesses of their male ancestors, but down in their hearts, we can't help believing, they feel rather ashamed of them.

That makes it hard to understand why such glaring injustices should still be tolerated on the Western hemisphere and in what we have always believed was one of our most progressive, as we know it to be one of our most beautiful, States. One would imagine that such laws would keep women of other jurisdictions from moving into California and that, if not actually a marriage deterrent, their existence would be a fruitful source of litigation, since presumably propertied women—or those interested in their welfare—would wish to avail themselves of every safeguard to continued possession of their property after marriage which the law might allow them, and, in addition, there would be the litigation arising from disagreements in regard to community property rights after marriage.

In the dim, dead past, man, regarded as the stronger and superior half of the marital partnership, was endowed—the words of the marriage service notwithstanding—with all the "goods" of his wife, on the theory that the stronger would "protect" the weaker vessel from a predacious world. How sweetly ironical this euphemistic "protection" can sometimes be, is shown by some of its results in California. Is any further argument needed to prove that an Equal Rights Amendment should be added to the Constitution?

The Acid Test

IN GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA, at the North Carolina College for Women, a group of trained women some time ago set themselves the task of finding out, by careful analytical and deductive laboratory methods, just what happens to the college woman after she leaves college.

The work was done under the auspices of the Institute of Women's Professional Relations whose calibre may be fairly judged from the fact that Amelia Earhart and Dr. Lillian M. Gilbreth are on the board of directors. The result—a 200-page bulletin, entitled "After College—What?"—deals with the cases of 6,665 women and the use they are making of their education.

The figures—6,665—are impressive. Considering the number of cases that were examined, the fact that the report was prepared by trained research workers, and that it was published by the North Carolina College for Women, the deductions may be regarded as conclusive. It is therefore intensely gratifying to find that the report contains the statement that "the great majority of married women who are working are in jobs because they need the money for their families."

This is just exactly what National Woman's Party leaders have been contending right along. It is true this study was made among college women, but if the college woman is prompted by her family's need to go out and earn a living, certainly the same thing would be true of the woman who has not been to college, perhaps even more so. The married woman doesn't seek a job merely to earn pin money. She works for precisely the same reason as the married man.

Other refreshing conclusions reached by the researchers are that women, like men, differ psychologically and biologically. Men are not restricted to one kind of work and, by the same token, "not all women are ideally suited for one line of work, homemaking." Again it is asserted that "the philosophy of individual development is in conflict with the tradition that the whole social obligation of woman is to bear and rear children."

It is idle to try to set the clock back. Neither man, nor woman, nor the home, are what they were fifty years ago. The woman of today demands equality in the home, outside of it, and "in all human relationships."

The Progress of Women in Costa Rica

Address Delivered by Don Manuel González Zeledón, Chargé d' Affaires of Costa Rica, at Alva Belmont House, National Headquarters of the National Woman's Party, in Washington, on July 17, 1932

ON the girdle of this continent there is a narrow strip of land with an area of 56,000 square kilometers, through which the lofty mountains which form the backbone of America squeeze themselves to pass from the North to the South, making out of it what has been baptized with the name of America's Switzerland. From the Caribbean Sea to the Pacific Ocean, it measures only an average of two hundred miles; and as a consequence of its orography, you can easily imagine that it enjoys many different climates, from the heat of its shores to the cool air of its high valleys up in the middle of the country; and at the same time you will realize the immense variety of its agricultural possibilities and natural products.

It was on the fourth and last voyage of Columbus, one morning of October, 1502, that he discovered this strip of land, in his search for a passage to his dreamed oriental golden realm. He was so astounded with the beauty of the scenery, with the wealth of the aborigines, and with the stories of great deposits of gold which the crafty Indians made him believe, that he baptized the newly discovered land with the pompous name of "Costa Rica" (the "Rich Coast") imposing upon its future owners the tremendous task of making good his exaggeration.

But you are not here this evening to hear descriptions of its natural beauties, climate, ores, woods, fauna and flora, or dry statistics of its exports and imports, currency, rates of exchange, and all those highly interesting aspects which constitute the delight of professors and scholars.

In that little strip of God's land, there are now happily living, working and progressing 535,000 human beings, more than 90 per cent. of pure white race, of Spanish stock, and of this number, no less than half of them are women, all deserving to be loved and respected throughout the world.

Travelers visiting that country, without exception, have always words of praise for our women, calling them extremely beautiful, and alluring. Beauty is only skin deep. What they really are is one of the finest collection of intelligent, energetic, devout, home-loving, and patriotic souls living upon this earth; and this is vouched by dry facts already registered and inscribed by history.

While Costa Rica was struggling for independence, Costa Rican women were kindling the fires of patriotism in the hearts of their mates. Many illustrious names I would be able to mention, but I prefer not to do it, lest I may omit some of those deserving eternal gratitude. During the very dangerous years of 1856 and '57, when we were forced to defend our land from adventurous invaders, our women accompanied our soldiers into the battlefields, encouraging them with their presence, helping them with unwearying activity, healing and nursing the sick and the wounded, closing the eyes of the dead, burying the beloved heroes and even snatching from their hands the abandoned weapon and using it for the defense of their country's integrity.

Whenever in the history of Costa Rica patriotism has had to be the key-note of the moment, women have shown it conspicuously and in a very high degree. It was due to their patriotic attitude on the memorable 13th of June, 1919, that the vaccilating minds of the people threw their virile protest against the tyrants then misgoverning Costa Rica, succeeding a few days later in throwing them out of power and reorganizing the republic under law and justice.

Public instruction is the leading preoccupation of our people. We use more than one-sixth of our revenues in Education. We keep open 475 schools with 45,000 pupils and 1,460 teachers, advantageously comparing with our 300 soldiers. It is the proud boast of our country that we, among the nations, have almost five times as many teachers in our schools as soldiers in our army. Recently, when a new school was needed, a barracks was taken over, remodeled, and turned from military uses to the instruction of our children. This is the reason why our illiteracy is negligible, and why Costa Rica occupies with great pride the second place, in this regard, among her sisters of this continent.

Under our civil laws, woman is free to trade, and she can freely dispose of her property by sale, donation or will, without any restraint whatever and without needing the consent of her husband. Divorce offers her freedom not only from her unfaithful mate, but also from a lazy, brutal one.

In all the important activities of life, the Costa Rican woman exercises her intelligence and energy; industry, science, arts, commerce, find her struggling under the same privileges and obligations granted to men, and in many instances obtaining higher success than her competitors of the male sex. In the schools, women have shown great ability; under their careful guidance many of the public learning institutions are yielding excellent crops, and women have been the initiators of the most progressive steps for the welfare of the child, the home, the destitute.

It is my proud recollection that in 1902, when I was Director of Statistics in Costa Rica, I was the first government official of my country to employ women in government offices, and thereby open to them a new field of development and of service. So successful was the innovation, and so popular, that when, five years later, I became Counsul General of Costa Rica in New York, a woman, one of that first splendid group who came into my department, was my successor as Director of Statistics! Since then, women have rendered efficient service to the State in ever increasing numbers and in all departments.

You will find the Costa Rican woman doing her share, and often far more than her share, in every walk of life. Our women toil with the men in the fields, in the coffee groves, pitting their forces against nature, man's best friend and worst enemy in the tropics, and wresting a livelihood from the soil. Women own their businesses; they are becoming an important factor in professional life. They have long been a motive force for every betterment in government. Courage, strength, and energy have characterized them in their upward course toward economic and political independence, and equality before the law.

Just at this moment, when facts have amply demonstrated that the Costa Rican woman is ripe for the enjoyment of full rights and for the fulfillment of political duties, our legislators are discussing a bill reforming and amending our constitution, granting her the right to cast her vote in the free election of public officials; and public opinion is so much in favor of the project, that there is no doubt that it will soon form a part of our constitution.

Not slowly, but by swift strides, woman in Costa Rica has reached a very high place in our institutions; and in the very near future she will reach the desired goal, when she will be enjoying the same rights and privileges enjoyed by men.

You know well that "of poet, healer, and crazy person we all have a little streak." I am not an exception to this rule; sometimes I write short lines which I, myself, think are poetry; in one of my latest vagaries I wrote an "Ode to Costa Rica," and these are the stanzas I devoted to the Costa Rican Woman.

I read then to you not in Spanish, the language in which I wrote them, but in my own hasty English translation, made for this occasion:

Now, Muse, lend wings to my mind!
Reverently I desire
To sing the Costarrican woman;

To modulate one lofty and elevated hymn,
Inspired by truth,
To her entitled to my greatest admiration.

When she was created by the Lord of lovable things,
He mixed all the flowers
With all the graces which heaven contains,
He endowed her with an archangel's tender heart,
He bathed her in one gleam of the Moon,
And tenderly he placed her in my beloved country.

This is why she is so fair and alluring,
So sweet and so charming,
So pure, so gentle and so forbearing;
A queen she is either in the palace or in the hut,
She is loyal and generous,
And she knows how to change life into a paradise.

In the home she is a loving mother
Who carefully offers
To her offspring the milk of life;
And in the school she is the perfect teacher,
Patiently training
Children in the art of being good.

Mother of charity to the destitute,
To the distressed orphan
She administers the balm of her sweetness;
And she is the protecting angel of the intrepid,
The valiant soldier,
Who finds a grave when fighting for his country's honor.

She is dove-like when she loves,
But in her justified wrath
She is lightning, blinding and destroying;
She fears the Lord, she is a faithful Christian,
A tempered and faultless soul,
Ready to sacrifice all for the sake of her country.

She kisses the tokens of her life
At the sad farewell—
Her father, brother, son or husband,
When fate takes them to fearful war,
And then, at the homecoming
Of the victorious army she weeps with joy.
But she does not weep her dead ones at the forum;
Her mournful tears
She sheds silently within her home;
She sings a firm song of thanksgiving,
And her sincere sorrow
She offers on the altars of her country.

Of the valuable gems on Costa Rica's mantle
They are the holiest ones;
Thus they were in the past and will be in the future,
The purest and most resplendent example
Among humankind,
Of daughters, mothers, wives, and citizens.

In the years to come, I will never forget this evening; it will be marked with golden characters in my remembrance. Thanking you cordially for having bestowed such an honor upon me, allow me to wish for your National Woman's Party the complete attainment of its noble aspirations.

Equality in Nationality Is World-Wide Demand

IN striking contrast to the lack of agreement among the representatives of the nations assembled in Geneva for the Disarmament Conference is the accord among the international Feminist organizations working in Geneva for the betterment of the status of women. These organizations are concentrating at present upon the removal of inequalities based on sex from the Nationality Convention adopted at the Hague Conference for the Codification of International Law as a part of a code of international law, now in course of formation under the auspices of the League of Nations. Eight international Feminist organizations united last summer in presenting a report to the Assembly of the League, stating their opposition to the Hague Nationality Convention because that convention differentiates between men and women as regards nationality. Following this action in Geneva, the same international organizations have sent messages to their members in all countries urging them to oppose the ratification of this convention.

One of the latest appeals from Geneva with regard to the Hague Convention was sent from the International Headquarters of the *Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.* It was signed on behalf of the organization by Madame Eugénie Meller of Budapest and was addressed to the presidents and secretaries of all national sections of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. This appeal reads:

> "We urge you to appeal to our government demanding that—
>
> (a) The Hague Convention should not be ratified, and
>
> (b) that it should be reconsidered with a view to granting equal nationality rights to women, and
>
> (c) that national legislation should be modified as regards the nationality of women if equality has not been established in your country in this respect."

The International Federation of University Women has sent a similar appeal from its headquarters in London to all national associations belonging to the Federation. The circular from the Federation of University Women reads:

> "Any action which your association can take to delay ratification of the Hague Nationality Convention by your Government will be of service to the Committee of Representatives of Women's International Organizations, which has definitely recommended that the Hague Nationality Convention should be reconsidered and that a new convention should be submitted to the governments, founded on the principle of equality between men and women with regard to nationality."

The International Alliance of Women for Suffrage and Equal Citizenship has likewise sent a letter on this subject from its headquarters in London to the presidents of its national branches. The letter was signed by Suzanne Grinberg of Paris, Chairman for the Alliance of its Committee on the Civil Status of Women, and by Chrystal MacMillan, Rapporteur for the Alliance on the question of nationality. The circular letter from the International Suffrage Alliance makes the following recommendation:

> "First of all, action should be taken to ensure that your Government takes no steps towards ratifying the Hague Nationality Convention. In view of this definite decision to review the question again next September, ratification at this time would be obviously contrary to common sense, but it would be satisfactory to have the assurance of your Government that it regards the matter in this light and will take no steps to ratify the convention.
>
> "Secondly, it is more than ever desirable that you should press for the introduction of a law, or at least a resolution in your parliament if time does not permit the passage of a new law, putting your legislation in regard to nationality on a sound basis of equality between the sexes. The Consultative Committee's report sent you in August shows briefly the international position, and also the basis of the demand which women's organizations are making, and, indeed, in the case of the Alliance have been making for many years. Every advance towards equality in nationality made in the interval before the next Assembly is a cogent argument in favor of a fresh international accord.
>
> "Thirdly, if it is not possible to get your legislation amended in the interval, you should make the strongest possible representations to your government as to the attitude to be taken by its delegates to the Assembly when the subject is discussed there. You should endeavor to make it abundantly clear that even for countries which have not yet re-

formed their nationality law, in the case of an international convention the principles enunciated should be such as are in accord with the trend of actual opinion and practice, rather than calculated to stereotype old conceptions of law which are already out of date.

"We would only add that the decision of the League Assembly gives us a precious interval in which to work for the success of a cause which has been so long on our program, and perhaps to remove for ever one more of those inequalities between the sexes, the disappearance of which it is our sole aim to remove."

Similar urgent appeals have been sent to their national representatives by the *International Council of Women,* one of the largest of the international organizations of women; by the *All-Asian Conference of Women,* an organization which covers all parts of Asia; and by the *Inter American Commission of Women,* which has representatives in all of the republics of North and South America.

These organizations are not only working in Geneva and in all sections of the world on a common nationality program, but their representatives are holding frequent conferences for the formulation of new joint recommendations to be submitted to the Assembly of the League when it meets again in September.

California Laws Favor Husbands

THE following carefully prepared abstracts showing how the community property and protective labor laws of California discriminate against women in that State have been compiled and arranged by Robbie Anderson, attorney, of Anaheim, California:

FACTS ABOUT CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY PROPERTY LAWS AFFECTING WOMEN

1. The husband has the management and control of the community property. His discretion in that respect is *unlimited.*

5 Cal. Jr. 335
181 Cal. 667
172 Cal. 775
153 Cal. 1
142 Cal. 119
136 Cal. 525
131 Cal. 447
3 Cal. Unrep. 344
32 Cal. App. Dec. 776
30 Cal. App. Dec. 683
139 Cal. App. 278
33 Cal. App. 93
14 Cal. App. 526
3 Cal. App. 651
2 Cal. App. 715

The husband may sell the community personal property or waste it in reckless living or speculation.

The husband's power of management and control of the community property has not been affected by legislation or by judicial decisions. Accordingly, goods constituting community property cannot be withdrawn by the wife from a warehouse in which they have been stored by the husband, without his consent.

74 Cal. App. 87

In the case last above cited, 74 Cal. App. 87, (McMullin vs. Lyon Fireproof Storage Co.), the plaintiff, a married man, deposited certain personal effects, the community property of himself and wife, with defendant, a warehouse keeper. Later the plaintiff's wife called at the warehouse and requested the delivery of this community property to her, which request was complied with by the warehouseman. Subsequent to this, the plaintiff, (husband), called upon the warehouseman and demanded the return to him of the goods. The warehouseman explained that he had already delivered the goods to the man's wife, whereupon suit was brought by the husband against the warehouseman for the value of the goods stored.

Judgment was rendered against the warehouseman and in favor of the husband for the value of the goods because the *husband has the management and control of the community personal property with the absolute power of disposition, other than testamentary, as he has of his separate estate.* The wife, under the present law, had no right to request or obtain a release of the stored goods to her, as that was the absolute right of the husband. The delivery of the community property by the warehouseman to the wife amounted to the same as a delivery of the property to an absolute stranger.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN DEMAND EQUAL RIGHTS

Paris, July 16 (A.P.).—The board meeting of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women, at its closing session today, went on record as favoring equal constitutional and civil rights for women.

Even the pendency of divorce proceedings against the husband does not interrupt his powers with reference to the sale, management and control of the community property. Indeed, so exclusive and extensive are the husband's powers of management and control over the community property, that even his abandonment of the wife or the fact that he has disappeared and is missing gives her no special powers over the property.

66 Cal. App. 434

The facts in the case last cited, 66 Cal. App. 434, (Bessie B. Chance vs. Soronus Kobsted), are these:

The plaintiff, Bessie B. Chance, was the wife of one Charles T. Chance, who deserted and abandoned her in the month of October, 1931, to live with one Midge Bowers; in November, 1921, Charles T. Chance, with community funds of himself and Bessie B. Chance purchased certain household furniture to be used by him and Midge Bowers. In May, 1922, the said Midge Bowers, following the disappearance of Charles T. Chance and his absence from the State of California, sold the household furniture to one Soronus Kobsted, the defendant in this action.

Following this sale, Bessie B. Chance, still the lawful wife of Charles T. Chance, the absent husband, brought suit against Kobsted to have the Court declare the community property involved vested in her, the wife.

The court held:

"The plaintiff's (the wife's) interest in the community property involved here was a mere expectancy and not a title or interest. Her husband had complete control over the same. The wife's interest in the community property could only become vested and severable upon a dissolution of the community and there was no dissolution in this case. Even divorce proceedings pending do not, in themselves, interrupt the husband's powers with respect to the management and control of community property. The husband continues to have control of it and full power to dispose of it."

The court refused to grant the plaintiff (wife) any relief on the ground that the husband was the only one under the circumstances to bring the suit concerning the sale, management, etc., of the community personal property, and even though he had abandoned plaintiff and left the State, she did not acquire the right to sue in her own name for the recovery of the community personal property.

Since the husband alone has the management and control of the community property, the wife is not even a proper party plaintiff in an action to recover it, or in actions involving the title to the same.

99 Cal. App. 465
206 Cal. 254
66 Cal. App. 434
54 Cal. App. 191

That the community property has been awarded her in an interlocutory decree of divorce does not alter or extend the wife's powers in regard to the property. The husband alone must sue in actions involving such property.

Secondo vs. Superior Court, 286 Pac. 1089.

The wife is not even entitled, during her husband's lifetime, to have her interest in the community property ascertained and declared by a judgment of the court.

204 Cal. 546
199 Cal. 318
209 Cal. 45

The sale of the chattels, constituting community property, by a third person acting without authority from the husband does not give the wife a right of action to recover them, nor to maintain an action to have a declaration that the purchaser has no title. (In other words, if the husband does not feel disposed to regain the chattels, the wife has no recourse.)

66 Cal. App. 434

2. Damage sustained for loss of time of wife on account of injury accrues in favor of the husband.

In actions brought for consequential damages, such as loss of the wife's services and expenses incurred by reason of her injuries, the husband alone is entitled to sue. The wife is not a proper party to such an action, and there is no reason why such a right should not be considered community property.

63 Cal. 450
66 Cal. 247
77 Cal. 390
130 Cal. 285
158 Cal. 514
167 Cal. 786
173 Cal. 199
27 Cal. App. 579

The court, in the case reported in 173 Cal. 199, held that in an action in the names of a husband and wife for damages for personal injuries to the wife, it is improper to award any sum for loss of the wife's services and expenses incurred by reason of the injuries, as such damages are occasioned to the husband alone, and for them he alone is entitled to sue.

Under Section 370 of the Code of Civil Procedure, the wife may now maintain actions for personal injuries, libel, slander, false imprisonment or malicious prosecution, or for the recovery of her savings, without the joinder of her husband, but the damages recovered and the rights of action continue to be classed as community property.

54 Cal. App. 15

It is clear that the wife is not a proper party in California to an action brought by the husband to recover damages against a third person whose negligence or wrong has deprived him of the loss of her aid, assistance, support and comfort.

89 Cal. App. 267

3. Since the wife's earnings are community property, the husband has the same management and control of them as he has of his separate property, and may dispose of them, other than by way of gift or testamentary disposition, as he will.

Civil Code, Sec. 172; 5 Cal. Jur. 303.

The earnings of the wife, while living with her husband, are community property, excepting where she has complied with the provisions of law respecting "Sole Traders".

The Employment of Women in California

On March 22, 1911, an act "limiting the hours of labor of females," was approved by the Governor of California. Since that time amendments have been made from time to time. At the present time this act "limiting the hours of labor of females" and commonly known as the eight-hour law for women, provides that—

"No female shall be employed in any manufacturing, mechanical or mercantile establishment or industry, laundry, hotel, public lodging house, apartment house, hospital, barber shop, place of amusement, or restaurant, or telegraph or telephone establishment or office, or in the operation of elevators in office buildings, or by any express or transportation company in this State, more than eight hours during any one day of 24 hours or more than 48 hours in one week."

This act does not apply to graduate nurses in hospitals, nor to the harvesting, curing, canning or drying of any variety of perishable fruit, fish or vegetable during such periods as may be necessary to harvest, cure, can or dry said fruit, fish or vegetable in order to save the same from spoiling.

The act gives to the Bureau of Labor Statistics the enforcement of the provisions of the act, and provides the penalty for any violation of the act.

(Matter of Application of Miller, 162 Cal. 687, holds the eight-hour law constitutional.)

On November 3, 1914, the following amendment to the Constitution of California was adopted:

"Section 17½. The legislature may, by appropriate legislation, provide for the establishment of a minimum wage for women and minors and may provide for the comfort, health, safety and general welfare of any and all employees. No provision of this constitution shall be construed as a limitation upon the authority of the legislature to confer upon any commission now or hereafter created such power and authority as the legislature may deem requisite to carry out the provisions of this section."

We have in California what is commonly called the "Minimum Wage Act," and which is an act regulating the employment of women and minors and under which an Industrial Welfare Commission has been established with power to investigate and deal with the employment of "women and minors," with the right to fix a minimum wage and to penalize those who violate the provisions of the act.

Women in Journalism

"I AM too much occupied in being a woman in journalism ordinarily to have much time to think about it," Ruby Black told the study group at National Woman's Party headquarters at their garden dinner on Wednesday evening, July 20. "However, one meets women *out* of journalism so frequently during these hard times that there are days when I have wondered how many are left in journalism."

Miss Black's facts and figures were reassuring, however. There is no journalistic job which is not being held down, somewhere, by a woman, she said. There is, for example, Eleanor Patterson as editor of a great city daily, *The Washington Herald.* There is a woman managing editor in Philadelphia. There are women owners, city editors, dramatic editors and critics, and reporters everywhere. The business manager of *The New York Herald-Tribune* is a woman. Women on many small town papers do sports, finance, and the like. "Nevertheless," she concluded emphatically, "while women can and do fill all newspaper posts acceptably, it is unquestionably much harder for them to get the job to begin with." And she added, in answer to a question from the audience, that promotion was more difficult for a woman, and salary increases smaller and less frequent, than for men.

Women in the newspaper world at present are going through a state of transition, Miss Black continued. There was a time when women were considered highly desirable for special jobs; they were "sob sisters"; they gave the "woman's angle." The woman's angle is not so much featured now. Editors and owners are beginning to act upon their knowledge that straight news appeals to men and women alike. Women in journalism today are there because of their ability, not because they are women. But survivals of the old attitude frequently keep them from having a man's deal as to getting the job, and receiving assignments, salary and promotion.

Miss Black told an incident of a day or two previous, when a Washington bureau head had advised one of the women on his staff not to get married, as marriage would "ruin your work." "And yet," he had added illogically, "it is true that the best newspaper women in Washington are married!" Among the newspaper women successfully combining marriage and a career, cited by Miss Black, were Ruth Finney of *Scripps-Howard,* Bess Furman of the *Associated Press* and Genevieve Herrick of the *Chicago Tribune.* "Equal opportunity for newspaper women as well as for all other women," she concluded, "will only be obtained when the National Woman's Party's aim has been fully achieved."

"However," she repeated, "sex does not matter after you have once got the job, insofar as doing the work is concerned. Men and women alike do everything, from Advice to the Lovelorn to International Affairs."

The 1930 census shows, she said, 11,924 women editors and reporters, whereas there were only 5,730 in 1920, the number of women having more than doubled in the decade. During the same period the number of men in similar positions increased 40 per cent., from 28,467 to 39,920. Women represented less than 17 per cent. of the total number of editors and reporters in 1920, and 23 per cent. in 1930. In 1910, to go back twenty years, they were only 12.2 per cent. of the whole. From 1870 to 1920, the census shows a constant increase in women in journalism. The only decade in which the number was not actually double the preceding figure was the war decade, the period from 1910 to 1920. The figures as cited are: 288 women editors and reporters in 1880; 888 in 1890; 2,193 in 1900; 4,181 in 1910; 5,730 in 1920; and 11,924 in 1930.

"There is small reason for considering women as interlopers in the newspaper world," Miss Black reminded her hearers. "It was a woman, after all, who founded

the first newspaper, in England! There were newspaper women here in America in colonial times, and the early days of the Republic. And here in Washington we are not likely to forget the gallant, stubborn fight of Ann Royall for the freedom of the press."

Ruby Black is head of her own Washington news bureau and has been singled out by *Washington Merry-Go-Round* as one of the few Washington correspondents whose work was beyond criticism. She is past president of Theta Sigma Phi, national journalist fraternity for women, and was for eight years editor of the women journalist's magazine, *The Matrix*. Her devoted service as managing editor of EQUAL RIGHTS need not be recalled to her colleagues. Last fall, a radio speaker on "The Men Behind the News in Washington" led off with the statement that "The men behind the news are frequently women," and first among them he named Ruby Black.

Press Comment

Feminism Fights On New Front

Eunice Fuller Barnard in New York Times Magazine, July 3, 1932.

IN AN arresting survey of the "Woman Power of the Nation," recently made by the woman's department of the National Civic Federation, it is said that "a better adjustment" is required "between the rapidly increasing numbers of trained women pouring from our educational institutions and the public's demonstrated need for additional professional and expert service."

* * * * *

Most technical and engineering schools, including those at Columbia, New York University, Johns Hopkins and the University of Pennsylvania, will not admit women, nor will several outstanding schools of architecture, law and medicine. Bar associations, as still in New York, are often closed to women lawyers, and hospital privileges denied to women physicians.

Even more generally, adequate financial rewards that would stimulate women's best efforts are denied them. Recent surveys of the graduates of a coeducational college and a professional school have shown the salaries of the women to average about half those of men. Even in teaching, the one profession in which women predominate, their pay is fixed by schedule below men's in many cities. And in spite of our loudly expressed fears of the effect of the spinster schoolma'am, almost two-thirds of our cities penalize teachers who marry with the loss of their jobs.

If it be argued that these discriminations merely force women back into their appropriate place in the home, one has only to glance at the inexorable census figures to see that the machine age has made this increasingly impossible. Moreover, "the wider distribution of women over the field of industry and commerce and their advancement into better occupations have not, on the whole," according to the official statement of the United States Department of Labor, "reduced the number nor impaired the quality of the employment opportunities of men."

As for the effect on the home, as the National Civic Federation points out, oddly enough women have been marrying in larger and larger proportions for the last half century, at almost the same rate at which they have been increasing in industry. Moreover, women's role in homemaking has never been particularly encouraged by governmental or other social recognition. In 1930 for the first time was it ever listed by the census as a vocation.

Nor does the contribution of leisure-class women to civic and philanthropic service receive any sort of national encouragement, nor is it ever "written into the grain of public thought," in the opinion of the Civic Federation surveyors. In other words, to make available woman's best endeavors in any line to the nation, there seems to be an increasing sentiment —in the parlance of a successful member of the sex—for "giving the little girl a hand."

"After College—What?"

OF GREAT interest to Feminists is the following statement taken from "After College—What?" a two-hundred-page bulletin published by the North Carolina College for Women, comprising a study made by the Institute of Women's Professional Relations, and edited by Chase Going Woodhouse:

"All reports show very definitely that the great majority of married women who are working are in jobs because they need the money for their families."

The bulletin views the problem of the college-trained woman and her struggle to find the proper outlet for her training and talents from every conceivable angle. The study is based on data, gathered by the United States Bureau of Education in 1928, relating to the work, earnings, families, and undergraduate and vocational problems of 6,665 land-grant—familiarly known as State-endowed—college and university women. It is provocative, informative and thorough-going, and admirably realizes its objectives which included, among others, the establishing of a "clearing-house for information on opportunities and requirements for college women in business and the professions" and the securing of "reliable information on present and new opportunities for advancement in specified occupations."

While the entire bulletin deserves careful reading, the paragraphs on "Marriage and Earnings" are so thoroughly in accord with views held by the National Woman's Party that they might as fittingly have emanated from the Alva Belmont House as from the laboratory of the research investigators in Greensboro, N. C. We quote from page 59 of the Bulletin:

"Tradition is still opposed to the combination of marriage and a paid job outside the home. But more and more the economic situation is forcing women to make this combination. When in the general population one of every five women gainfully employed is married, a situation is indicated which cannot be dismissed as merely undesirable.

"All reports show very definitely that the great majority of married women who are working are in jobs because they need the money for their families. The investigations of the Women's Bureau and the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor prove this condition for women in industry. However, the married women in the American Association of University Women's study were quite clear as to why they were working—58.8 per cent. giving economic reasons; 33.8 per cent., desire for work; and 7.4 per cent., a family situation other than economic. Moreover, emphasis is given to the economic reasons when it is noted that 62.8 per cent. of the women with children, and 52.1 per cent. of the women without children, gave an economic reason for holding a job.

"While the social service which a woman may perform in the home is greater today than it ever has been, these services are not paid for by society and, except on the farm or in very small communities, the woman who must make an economic contribution to her family is forced to go outside the home and earn money.

The work her grandmother did has been taken over by the factory and other commercial agencies and, if she would have their products, she must pay for them in cash. The husband's wage is supposed to be determined at a level which will enable him to support a family, but wage-makers have not taken into serious consideration the difference between the economic value of the wife in the home of even fifty years ago and in the home of today.

"Besides the economic forces, there must be considered the psychology and biology of individual differences. Not all women are ideally suited for one line of work, homemaking. Again, the philosophy of individual development, the idea that it is the duty of every individual to develop his talents for his own benefit as well as for that of society, is in conflict with the tradition that the whole social obligation of woman is to bear and rear children and devote herself to them. This ideal could be enforced when conditions demanded eight or nine children of each woman to keep society flourishing, but now with the usual family of two or three children the case is very different.

"However, social opinion changes slowly and is likely to lag behind actual conditions. Society has a tendency to deny the existence of a situation of which it does not approve, and, today, in many quarters, the economic necessity and the individual right of the married woman to choose her field of activity is ignored, or even definitely denied as in the public school systems which have regulations prohibiting the employment of married women teachers. This attitude has been noticeably strengthened during the business depression and is evidenced, for example, where large corporations and certain railway systems have dismissed all their married women employees and have warned the single women that marriage would mean enforced resignation."

Feminist Notes

M. Pearl McCall Nominated Juvenile Court Judge

ON JULY 13 President Hoover transmitted to the Senate the nomination of M. Pearl McCall for the bench of the Juvenile Court in the District of Columbia. Miss McCall is now serving as assistant United States District Attorney. For the past eleven years she has been in charge of the domestic relations division of the office. She is the only woman ever elected to the General Council of the American Bar Association. A graduate of the Washington College of Law, she is president of the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia. Miss McCall was born in Kentucky and at an early age became a resident of Idaho, where she taught school. She began her law study in the office of Senator Borah, whose secretary she was for some time.

Double Standard Not Wanted

"SENATORS indignant at Old World diplomacy of 'secret compacts secretly arrived at' in the Lausanne debt conference now know how women felt when the unjust Hague Nationality Convention was projected behind closed doors," says Iris Calderwood Walker, chairman of the Equality Reservation Campaign for the National Woman's Party.

"When women found their nationality rights endangered by the Old World diplomaticos, they immediately took steps to safeguard these hard-won gains by projecting an Equality Reservation to our adherence to the World Court.

"We in the National Woman's Party will not permit our country to step down to the Old World code of the double standard of one law for men and another law for women. The treachery of secret proceedings at Lausanne—the same that women met at The Hague—has brought a quick and wrathful protest from our Senators. Yet women were even more cruelly victimized by the same star-chamber tactics. This will certainly bring an awakening and understanding in the Senate on the necessity for our Equality Reservation to the World Court."

Status of Women in Persia

TOMORROW afternoon the District of Columbia Branch of the National Woman's Party will give a garden tea at Alva Belmont House with Mrs. Paul Myron Linebarger, District chairman, and the members of the board as hostesses. The guest speaker will be Mme. Abdollah Entezam of Persia, who as Margaret Hume of the Junior League was very popular in Capital society before her marriage to M. Entezam, then secretary of the Persian Legation, and now attached to Persia's delegation to the League of Nations.

Mme. Entezam, who is visiting her parents in Washington before joining her husband in Geneva, will speak on "The Status of Women in Persia," and will relate informally some of her own experiences in that country, as well as give an idea of the progress of Persian women in the recent past.

"Not an Experiment—"

A GLOWING tribute to the services of Senator Hattie Caraway of Arkansas—the only woman in the Senate—was paid by Senator Long in the closing days of the session. We quote the following interesting statements from the *Congressional Record* of July 13:

"Mr. LONG. Mr. President, Mrs. Caraway was, I believe, the first lady who has ever been elected by the people of this country to sit in this body. She has made a record here in the Senate that I think should be called to the attention of the nation. She has been here in Washington with her husband for many years, but has been in the United States Senate for several months only. . . . .

"It is said to be an experiment for a woman to sit in the United States Senate, but it is not an experiment for Mrs. Caraway, and the record that she has made shows it. . . . .

"Fortunately for her, in this body her colleague from her State is the leader of the Democratic side. From long acquaintance and from leadership of this body, it naturally would have been expected that the vote of Mrs. Caraway, from Arkansas, would have been in accordance with the vote of her colleague from Arkansas (Mr. Robinson). I remember reading in a magazine when I first came to the Senate an article which gave about a little 2-line analysis of every member of the Senate, and when it reached the name of Mrs. Caraway, it said, 'Senator Robinson's other vote.' To my surprise, however—and I do not at this time intend in any respect to criticize anyone's record—as I have sat in this body and observed vote after vote that has been cast by our leaders of the Republican side and by our leaders of the Democratic side, I have often watched with unerring view Mrs. Caraway voting contrary to the advice and suggestion of her own party leader, who comes from her own State."

Restrictive Legislation Defeated in Louisiana

MRS. E. GEORGE ROGERS of New Orleans, Louisiana, writes that restrictive legislation for women suffered defeat in the 1932 session of the Louisiana Legislature, just recessed.

A bill making it illegal to employ married women in State and municipal positions, who husbands were likewise employed was reported unfavorably out of the committee.

The 48-hour bill restricting the hours of women workers suffered the same fate.

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